P30639.A04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Masamoto TANABIKI et al. Confirmation No. : 8628

Appl. No. : 10/598,661 (U.S. National Examiner: Edwyn Labaze

Stage of PCT/JP2006/300146)

I.A. Filed : January 10, 2006 Group Art Unit : 2887

For : SECURE DEVICE AND SYSTEM FOR ISSUING IC CARDS

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop <u>Issue Fee</u> Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 14, 2008 and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicants wish to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner's indication of allowability, Applicants submit that each of the claims in the present application recite a combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the combination of features recited therein.

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Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Masamoto TANABIKI et al.

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